

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend Paragraph [0155] of Patent Application US 2002 / 0097564 A1 as follows:

NE [0155] Secondary master controller 240 also automatically powers up and performs a Power On Self Test (POST). However, in order to give primary master controller 230 time to complete its POST first (and assume control of access processor shelf 170), secondary master controller 240 initiates a delay before it begins its POST. After secondary master controller 240 completes its POST, secondary master controller 240 communicates with primary master controller 230 in order to determine if primary master controller 230 is functioning. If primary master controller is not functioning, then secondary master controller 240 assumes control of access processor ~~controller 270~~ shelf 170. If primary master controller 230 is functioning, then secondary master controller 240 enters a "stand by" or "wait" state. Secondary master controller 240 will take over control of access processor shelf 170 if primary master controller 230 fails.